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lishes a smaller and simpler book, called "Nociones de Fisiología," written by Dr. M. Foster and translated by Dr. Antonio Soler. In this same series, there is a small book on bacteriology, called "Nociones de Microbiología," which can be used as a reference book if one aspires to such a library.

Teaching in a language which is not one's own and without the help of proper text-books is a proposition which is at times discouraging, so that all the help which we who are in such work can give each other ought to be appreciated. I shall look for other answers to Miss Moeri's questions with much interest, hoping to get further help for myself.

Porto Rico.

M. LOUISE BEATY.

NATIONAL PENSION FUND

DEAR EDITOR: I am so glad the question of providing for disabled nurses has been brought up by you for discussion and is to be reported on by a committee at the May meeting. Could we not through the JOURNAL make the nurses well acquainted with the necessity of doing the best thing in this direction before that time?

The plan of a national pension fund seems ideal, but it is, as you say, big,—so big, metaphorically speaking, we can hardly see over it at first. Do you think it would be best to make it also "sick benefit"? Our sick nurses are much more easily dealt with; it is the incapacitated and older nurses for whom we need to do something more. Of course cases of continued illness could come under this head.

How would it be to call it "R.N. Annuity Fund" instead of Old Age or Pension, and what would be the plan in detail? for the nurses to pay yearly to their respective alumnae associations a sum, and this be forwarded to a committee of the Associated Alumnae? Could we not for this purpose give entertainments, receive contributions, and in every legitimate way increase our fund? The most difficult part would seem to be the administration, but not any more so than with other organizations,—there are plenty of precedents to go by, and much more stupendous.

If every nurse in our Associated Alumnae were to act, in three years we should certainly have enough to begin paying the most urgent cases. As our organizations advance in professional interest, we should also advance in dealing with those responsibilities which cannot be ignored. We do not want to appeal through the daily newspapers, as you say. We *can* take care of our own, as other organizations do. Hitherto there has not been so much necessity, but now that there is, let us co-operate and magnanimously meet it.

ADELAIDE SHARPE, R.N.,
Graduate of St. Luke's, Chicago.

A NURSE NEEDED

DEAR EDITOR: I have had an appeal, from an Episcopal clergyman with whom I am personally acquainted, for trained nurses to locate in Wisconsin, in a place of 16,000 inhabitants, which field also includes an area of 100 miles in surrounding country. A graduate nurse may get plenty of work at \$25 a week. Particularly is a graduate wanted who will do hourly nursing while not otherwise engaged. As a compensation, she may have a room in the Infirmary, free (a small hospital of four or five beds, for eye,

ear, nose, and throat patients, only). Board nearby would cost \$4.50 a week.

This seems to be a good opening to work among people who are apparently willing to employ nurses, but who cannot get them. I thought this might be of advantage to some of the readers of the JOURNAL, our source of advice and inspiration. M. S. T.

[The name of the town may be had by writing to the editorial office of the JOURNAL, inclosing a self-addressed envelope.—ED.]

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS

DEAR EDITOR: Some of the JOURNAL readers may find the following suggestions of use.

Two harness pins are fine for keeping the bed covers on children or semi-delirious patients. They are very strong and by pinning to mattress on each side, keep covers in place.

Mutton tallow is one of the finest preventives of bedsores known (to me). Render out the mutton suet, add all the gum camphor it will dissolve and keep in an old china cup. Have patient's back washed clean and rub in the tallow as hot as it can be borne by the hand. It is very healing, and forms a water-proof coating.

Salt bags are easiest heated by placing on a "Mrs. Potts" sad iron on the back of stove. Does not scorch, but stays hot.

Nurses getting a call to the country in winter, will find it wise to put a pair of heavy woolen tights and a sweater in their suitcase. Just before the station is reached, they can be put on in the toilet room, and then if they have an eight or ten mile ride they are somewhat prepared. Doctors will come for one with overshoes and fur coat (for themselves) and expect a nurse to keep warm in a thin cloth coat.

Minnesota.

M. W.

OPERATING ROOM IN PRIVATE HOMES

DEAR EDITOR: Possibly some of the private nurses would like to know how an operating room should be prepared in a private home. I will send my idea. I select a room that will afford the best light, also as small a one as possible, with, of course, sufficient room for three or four small tables and room for four or five persons to move about comfortably. I also inquire as to the time of the operation, and select a room in which the light would be best at that time.

I remove all tapestry, rugs, carpets, and pictures, leaving the walls and floor bare. Also remove all furniture. The wood-work and floors are washed free from dust. For the walls, I use corn meal or bread crumbs, sprinkled with some strong liquid disinfectant. I take a clean broom, wrapped with cloth, and with this wipe down the walls and ceiling. Then I wash the wood-work again with clear water which has a disinfectant in it. After this I procure clean sheets enough to cover walls and ceiling, and dip them in a bichloride or lysol solution (they may be sterile, but if in a hurry it takes time to sterilize them) and tack them up. To secure the sheet overhead, I use a step ladder and have two persons, with bichloride broom handles, hold the sheets while I tack them, as they are very heavy when wet. The ceiling is covered